

investments in other technology sectors because United States economic competitiveness and national security will depend on strong capabilities across a range of technologies.

(5) Computing power is essential to progress in artificial intelligence development, and the amount of computing power required for artificial intelligence training runs is increasing exponentially.

(6) A new wave of technological advances could be fostered by combining and increasing access to government-owned and government-funded computing and data resources.

(7) Expanding access to digital infrastructure, such as broadband, will be essential to creating new job opportunities and stimulating the growth of new technology and innovation clusters to support United States leadership in artificial intelligence.

(8) Incentivizing research and development across the private sector, particularly from smaller companies, will further strengthen the United States innovation ecosystem.

(9) The United States is an attractive research and development partner because it is home to world-class universities, research institutes, and corporations.

(10) Decades of experience show that joint work with foreign researchers can be done with great benefit and little detriment to United States economic and national security with the implementation of proper safeguards.

(11) Artificial intelligence standards and measurement are essential to fostering artificial intelligence technologies that are safe, secure, reliable, and comport with the norms and values of the United States.

(12) Metrics are how the artificial intelligence research community guides itself and prioritizes research.

(13) Benchmark tests are necessary to understand the performance of an artificial intelligence system.

(14) Current tests for measuring artificial intelligence range from vague and conceptual to well-defined and mature.

(15) Artificial intelligence measurement methodologies are not static and will require periodic reexaminations and updates of testing methodologies to ensure that artificial intelligence systems are functioning according to best-known practices.

(16) United States leadership in global artificial intelligence standards-setting will help ensure that artificial intelligence implementations are in accordance with United States strengths and comport with the interests and values of the United States.

(17) Public engagement is necessary for developing voluntary consensus standards, guidelines, and frameworks to ensure diverse perspectives are considered.

(b) MATTERS TO CONSIDER.—

(1) FEDERAL FUNDING.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Federal Government should increase investments in artificial intelligence research and development and related fields.

(2) COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that departments and agencies of the Federal Government should collaborate—

(A) with the private sector, civil society, and academia—

(i) to ensure that the United States innovation ecosystem leads the world in artificial intelligence research and development; and

(ii) to develop voluntary consensus standards, guidelines, and frameworks that will help create shared conceptual foundations, terminology, and best practices for artificial intelligence fairness and bias mitigation; and

(B) with science funding organizations in like-minded countries to establish multilat-

eral teams of artificial intelligence researchers from the public and private sectors to promote additional talent development and foster partnerships on artificial intelligence research and development.

(3) EXPANDING DIGITAL ACCESS.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Federal Government should—

(A) expand access to broadband in rural and underserved areas;

(B) expand the availability of affordable graphics processing units and high-performance computers in rural and underserved areas;

(C) improve digital infrastructure in the United States; and

(D) make data created by federally-funded scientific and technical research publicly available with appropriate privacy protections to provide artificial intelligence researchers with new data sets to train their systems.

(4) NATIONAL COMPUTING AND DATA RESOURCE.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should consider establishing a national computing and data resource.

(5) ACCESS TO NATIONAL LABORATORIES.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that the existing supercomputing labs at the national laboratories and technology centers of the Department of Energy should expand opportunities for academics and researchers to access such labs for artificial intelligence research and research related to artificial intelligence.

(6) TAX INCENTIVES.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should examine whether targeted incentives and reforms to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 would increase private sector research and development, particularly with respect to small cap corporations.

#### SEC. 6. ETHICS, REDUCED BIAS, FAIRNESS, AND PRIVACY.

(a) FINDINGS.—The House of Representatives finds the following:

(1) The rise of artificial intelligence has great potential to improve quality of life for individuals in the United States, provided it is developed and used in a manner that is ethical, reduces bias, promotes fairness, and protects privacy.

(2) A diverse artificial intelligence workforce is important for mitigating bias.

(3) The United States is uniquely positioned to leverage its diverse workforce to lead in artificial intelligence.

(4) The starting point for Federal oversight of artificial intelligence should be to review existing regulatory frameworks.

(5) Regulatory sandboxes, in general, refer to regulatory structures where a participant obtains limited or temporary access to a market in exchange for reduced regulatory uncertainty, and can be used to test a product designed to mitigate unintended bias or promote fairness in a small-scale environment and under the supervision of regulators.

(6) Federal programs should have necessary safeguards and oversight processes.

(7) Artificial intelligence regulatory approaches should consider the level of risk associated with different artificial intelligence applications.

(b) MATTERS TO CONSIDER.—

(1) BIAS MITIGATION.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that departments and agencies of the Federal Government should—

(A) support technical and non-technical research and development to address potential bias, fairness, and privacy issues in artificial intelligence;

(B) improve access to a broad range of non-sensitive government data assets to help train artificial intelligence systems;

(C) implement title II of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-435; 132 Stat. 5529);

(D) develop policies to identify the data used to train artificial intelligence algorithms as well as data analyzed by artificial intelligence algorithms and systems in use by departments and agencies; and

(E) further develop and release to the public available benchmark data assets with the proper safeguards to protect privacy, mitigate bias, and promote inclusivity.

(2) REGULATION AND LEGISLATION REVIEW.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that congressional committees should—

(A) review the range of existing Federal regulations and laws that potentially apply to artificial intelligence;

(B) determine which laws apply to artificial intelligence;

(C) determine if any gaps in appropriate legislation and regulation exist and how such gaps could be addressed;

(D) advance Federal privacy reforms that build trust, prevent harm, and maintain United States global leadership in artificial intelligence; and

(E) conduct regular oversight of artificial intelligence policies in the executive branch within their jurisdiction.

(3) FEDERAL FUNDING.—It is the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should support funding for departments and agencies of the Federal Government interested in adopting programs, including regulatory sandboxes, for the purposes of testing artificial intelligence tools in limited markets.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HONORING JOHNNY BLAKELY

(Mr. GREEN of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the decades-long service of a public servant who embodies what makes Tennessee the Volunteer State, Mr. Johnny Blakely.

After 18 years faithfully representing the Congressman for Tennessee's Seventh District, Johnny will begin his next chapter of life in the new year.

For 24 years, he served on the school board, including 17 years as chairman. Johnny also served as vice mayor of his hometown.

He and Linda, his charming wife of 56 years, have three children—Ross, Lora, and Jeremy—and seven grandchildren.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to congratulate Johnny Blakely on his retirement and express our gratitude for his 18 years of service to Tennessee's Seventh District.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the decades-long service of a public servant who embodies what makes Tennessee the Volunteer State, Mr. Johnny Blakely.

After 18 years faithfully representing the member of Congress for Tennessee's Seventh District, Johnny will begin his next chapter of life in the new year.

Johnny grew up in McNairy County in west Tennessee, where his mother diligently raised a family of five while also working in the local shoe factory. After a thirty-five year career at

AT&T, he joined then-Congressman MARSHA BLACKBURN's office. When I was elected to Congress, he agreed to postpone retirement to continue serving our district for two more years.

Johnny has been the invaluable link between the work we do in congress and the local communities in the district by being a resource for constituents and community leaders and listening to the concerns and challenges facing rural Tennesseans.

Johnny understands the challenges of our community leaders because he himself has been one throughout his life. For 24 years, he served on the McNairy County Board of Education, including 17 years as chairman. During this time, the Board of Education oversaw two multi-million-dollar building projects in the county. In 1992, he was selected to serve on the All Tennessee School Board. Johnny also served as Vice Mayor of his beloved hometown, Ramer.

Johnny and Linda, his ceaselessly charming wife of 56 years, have three children—Ross, Lora, and Jeremy—and seven grandchildren. Johnny has always sought to put his family first and he is proud of everything that his children and grandchildren have accomplished. He and his family are longtime members of Ramer Baptist Church, where he has served many years as an Ordained Deacon, Music Director, and Sunday School Teacher.

Johnny has done an outstanding job serving the people of Tennessee and this nation through his volunteer work and his professional career of public service, and it has been an honor and a privilege to have him as a member of my staff.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I'm proud to congratulate Johnny Blakely on his retirement and to express our gratitude for his lifelong commitment to his community and his 18 years of faithful and diligent service to the people of Tennessee's Seventh Congressional District.

#### CRITICAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, today's passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020, as amended by the Senate, marks a new chapter for a critical infrastructure project that is very important to the residents of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District.

The Williamsport levee, located in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, in the heart of PA-12, is in dire need of repair to protect the livelihoods of local residents and businesses.

The flood zone behind the 20-mile levee system is responsible for nearly 87 percent of Lycoming County's economic activity. This area employs more than half of the region's workforce and is home to 24 of the county's 50 largest employers.

This bill authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to carry out a feasibility study of the imminent threat the levee poses to Lycoming County's residents and economy. This study is a precursor to construction and funding for the levee and represents an important

step toward addressing this critical infrastructure need.

I will continue to do everything in my power to work with the Army Corps of Engineers to prioritize this project. Today, we take an important step forward in our community's collective effort to get this infrastructure project across the finish line, and for that, I am grateful.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LOSS OF BRIGADIER GENERAL CHUCK YEAGER

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to recognize the loss of a very great American, Brigadier General Chuck Yeager, who passed last evening. He and his wife, Victoria, are constituents of ours in Nevada County in our district in northern California.

Truly, he was an American icon. He inspired the world to push farther and faster and to push the envelope, as they say, a man I was honored to call a friend.

He grew up in West Virginia, a country boy hunting and fishing the hills where he lived. He entered World War II and became one of the greatest pilots that we would know. He had an amazing 20/10 vision that helped him to see enemy aircraft sooner than the rest of his colleagues or the enemy could see ours.

His exploits in the sky continued after World War II, when he was the first man to break the sound barrier in his Bell X-1 aircraft.

Indeed, he was an amazing gentleman. He was a determined man with a lot of grit, provided a lot of help advancing the aviation situation in this country, even just a few years ago, exceeding the sound barrier once again.

He had a straight and dry sense of humor. He didn't have a whole lot of use for politicians. I was lucky to be able to count him as a friend, not as a politician but as more of a neighbor.

We will grieve this man and we will grieve his loss, because they don't make very many like Chuck Yeager. Indeed, he will be irreplaceable.

God bless him and his family.

#### FAREWELL TO CONGRESSWOMAN ROBY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we will, in short time, remember our friend Paul Sarbanes, but another friend of mine, whom I have not known as long but I have known well, is the gentlewoman from Montgomery, Alabama, with whom I went on the pilgrimage sponsored by Faith and Politics and led by

our beloved John Lewis. She welcomed us so graciously to Montgomery.

She is a graduate of NYU, a graduate of Stanford Law School, and is extraordinarily proud of her father, the chief judge of the court of appeals of their circuit. Her husband, Riley, and their two children I have known, and they have joined us.

Regrettably, she will be leaving the Congress at the end of this year. I say regrettably because she was a Member of Congress who worked across the aisle and who worked positively and constructively on behalf of her district, on behalf of her State, and on behalf of her country. We will miss her.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Alabama.

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Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), my friend, for yielding.

Thank you so much, Leader HOYER, I just appreciate your friendship all these years. I really do appreciate the time you have given me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise before you and my colleagues here today to speak for my final time on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, 17 years ago, my husband, Riley, and I prayerfully decided I would put my name on the ballot for the first time. Never could we have imagined that that original decision to run for the Montgomery City Council would lead us to serve five terms in the U.S. House of Representatives.

We are so grateful that God allowed us to serve our country in this way, and we give all honor and glory to Him. I count it a great privilege to have served the people of Alabama's Second Congressional District over the past decade, and I cannot adequately express how deeply thankful I am for the confidence my constituents have placed in me over the years.

Each of you sitting here before me knows the responsibility that comes along with being a Member of Congress. Yes, we are required to vote and to be the conscience of those we represent, but serving our constituents back home truly changes lives in our communities for the better.

As I look back on the wonderful things Team Roby was able to accomplish, along with the help of my colleagues in the Alabama delegation, I realized that our most significant duty is to help those who need us. Whether it is requesting assistance with the VA or another Federal agency, assisting with cleanup following a large-scale weather event, voicing an opinion, or booking tours of the U.S. Capitol, my doors have always remained open to each person I represent.

I am thankful for the unique opportunities given to me by those who came before me, especially the chance to serve on several impactful committees, including Committee on Appropriations, Committee on the Judiciary, Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Armed Services, Committee on Education and the Workforce, and the Select Committee on Benghazi. Much